

A RESOLUTION to mourn the loss of former legislator and
longtime member of the Public Service
Commissioner Cayce L. Pentecost.

WHEREAS, it is with a deep sense of loss and great sadness that this body learned of the death of Cayce L. Pentecost; and

WHEREAS, as state representative, attorney, navy pilot, national guard officer, governor's administrative assistant, public service commissioner, and world traveler, Cayce L. Pentecost utilized his many skills and political contacts to assist others; and

WHEREAS, a native of Weakly County, he graduated from high school at age 15 and received both his undergraduate and law degrees from the University of Tennessee at Knoxville; and

WHEREAS, Commissioner Pentecost was elected to the State Legislature as a representative in 1947, thus beginning his career as a public servant. He completed his law degree after his first and only term as state representative; and

WHEREAS, as an attorney, Commissioner Pentecost served as an assistant United States attorney for West Tennessee, returned to Weakley County and practiced law in the private sector; and

WHEREAS, with his strong desire to stay involved in politics, Commissioner Pentecost, in 1952, joined Al Gore Sr.'s campaign for the U.S. Senate where his leadership proved enormously beneficial in helping to lead the campaign to a glorious victory; and

WHEREAS, because of his persistence, expertise, and initiative, Commissioner Pentecost was asked to serve in the crucial role of administrative assistant to Governor Frank Clement, where he diligently assisted the Governor; and

WHEREAS, in 1953, Commissioner Pentecost served on the Public Service Commission until 1977 and established an extremely reputable image that allowed him to pave the way for other well known statesmen; and

WHEREAS, he also played a major role in the political caucus of two of our most distinguished citizens, Governor Ned McWherter and Vice President Al Gore; and

WHEREAS, he also served admirably as an unofficial ambassador for Tennessee as an extensive traveler visiting almost fifty countries, leaving behind an impressive image of one who was a scholar as well as a political genius; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE NINETY-NINTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, That we express our deep regret at the death of this most exemplary leader and our deepest condolences to his family and countless friends. A true and tried native of the Volunteer State, his was a life of accomplishment, one that made Tennessee a safer and better place.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That an appropriate number of copies of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.